

BENEFITS OF ACCREDITATION

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)

- Standards require an in-depth review of every aspect of the agency's organization, management, operations and administration.
- Standards reinforce agency goals and objectives with provisions for periodic updating.
- Standards require and evaluation of whether agency resources are being used in accordance with agency goals, objectives and mission.
- Standards require a re-evaluation of agency policies and procedures, especially as documented in the agency's written directive system.
- Standards require the correction of internal deficiencies and inefficiencies before they become public problems.
- Standards provide objective measures to justify decisions related to budget requests and personnel policies.
- Standards serve as a yardstick to measure the effectiveness of the agency's programs and services. The services provided are defined, and uniformity of service is assured.
- Standard help streamline operations, providing more consistency and more effective deployment of agency personnel.
- Standards require that agency policies and procedures are in written form and are available to all agency personnel at all times.
- Standards assure employees that every aspect of the agency's personnel system is in accord with professional standards.
- Standards increase the morale of the agency's personnel by increasing the employee's confidence in the effectiveness and efficiency of their own agency.
- Many standards address officer safety issues and insure adequate training and equipment.
- Standards reduce liability insurance costs: department savings for following fiscal years- 2004-05 (\$8,106) 2005-06 (\$9,830) 2006-07 (\$8,715) total savings over three year period of (\$26,651)
- Accreditation is one of the best methods of demonstrating accountability to the public an agency serves. Agencies are required to give notice to the population they serve that they are seeking accreditation. As a part of the on-site, a public forum is held where those citizens desiring to do so are allowed to voice their views of the department's operations, either in person or in writing. All of CALEA standards are a matter of public record through the agency.

Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police (KACP)

- **Provides a means of independent evaluation of the agency operations.**
- **Provides a basis to correct deficiencies in the agency's operations before they become public problems.**
- **Requires the agency to commit policy and procedures to writing and keep them updated.**
- **Provides a norm for agency to judge its performance**
- **Reduces liability insurance costs.**
- **Promotes accountability among agency personnel and the evenhanded application of policies.**
- **Enhances the reputation of agency, thereby helping to attract the most qualified candidates for employment.**
- **Minimizes the agency's exposure to liability, which reduces vicarious liability suits.**
- **Builds stronger defense against lawsuits and citizen complaints.**
- **Increases community confidence in the police department.**
- **Recognition for meeting standards of excellence.**